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23 October 1944.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR OF NAVAL INTELLIGENCE:

Subject: Exploitation of Japanese Air Documents.

- Reference: (a) A.C. of S., G-2, Memorandum 136781, same subject of 24 September 1944.
(b) A.C. of S., G-2, Memorandum 136782, Subject - Document Research of 24 September 1944.
(c) D.N.I. Memorandum 02288116, Subject - Exploitation of Japanese Air Documents, 21 October 1944.

1. In response to reference (c), it would appear that the action indicated in paragraphs 1, 2 and 3 thereof will provide that portion of the Navy's quota essential to get the Air Document work going. Every effort will be made to utilize most effectively the Navy personnel available. Instructions issued should insure that they are afforded every convenience available at Camp Ritchie. The splendid spirit of cooperation in the joint air document work is appreciated.

2. In regard to reference (c) paragraph 4, your assurance that you consider the proposed plan for a joint document translation research organization sound in principle is gratifying. It is regretted that you consider there are practical deficiencies which prevent your concurrence at this time. The importance of getting the maximum value from captured documents, combined with the acute shortage of qualified Japanese linguists, would seem to indicate that we should further investigate this matter to determine means of removing the deficiencies that currently preclude the Navy and Army reaching a satisfactory joint solution. Further detailed comments on this matter are invited to the end that Navy and Army intelligence may be further improved.

CLAYTON BISSELL,
Major General,
A. C. of S., G-2.

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EXPLOITATION OF JAPANESE AIR DOCUMENTS

A.C. of S., Chief, 23-10-44
G-2 MIS

1. Attached hereto is a copy of memorandum from the Director of Naval Intelligence dated 21 October and copy of my reply thereto.

2. Paragraphs 1 and 2 are perfectly clear and set forth the current Navy position. It would appear that we should determine the quota of technical Air Officers, without linguistic qualifications, that will be required progressively in the future at approximately thirty day intervals. When this has been determined and we know what should be the Navy quota, please advise me and the matter will again be taken up with the Navy. I must agree that it is obvious that we could not initially utilize fully the services of twenty technical Air Officers without language qualifications. The detail of such a number at this time would be wasteful.

3. It would appear to be necessary to make some modification in our arrangements at MIRS so that the officer Navy personnel are not mixed with the enlisted personnel doing translation work and so that we utilize to the maximum capacity the qualifications of this group. I would feel that if we did not from the start utilize this personnel at maximum capacity, the Navy would be fully justified in withdrawing them. Further, if the initial five are not fully employed from the start, the Navy would have a sound basis for delaying in furnishing the other three. From the point of view of air document work, I believe their proposal cannot be criticized.

4. The reference to the qualifications of the Navy personnel is not clear to me due to my lack of detailed knowledge of the various books referred to. I am requesting Colonel Rasmussen's comments which will be forwarded to you upon receipt. Copy of my letter to Rasmussen is attached.

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5. With reference to paragraph 4 of Admiral Schuirmann's memorandum, I will go into this matter further. I feel that before progress could be expected, I must have the answer to my letter to Rasmussen. Thereafter I will again contact the Navy.

/s/ Clayton Bissell
CLAYTON BISSELL
Major General
A.C. of S., G-2

Sect Ch/MIS 24 Oct

Gen Osman had discussed this with Gen. Bissell. Record Section copies furnished for information. Please file. Dispatched original.

/s/ RJS

C/MIS Thru 26 Oct
Deputy
C/MIS
To
Dir
Intell

For action. Keep me informed.

/s/ RAO

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